# **The Bendy Bulletin**



BENDY BODIES

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# Hypermobility Spectrum Disorders

#### What are hypermobility spectrum disorders (HSD)?

• HSD are a group of conditions that share some of the features of the Ehlers-Danlos syndromes (EDS), but do not meet the full diagnostic criteria for any of the specific types of EDS. HSD is a relatively new diagnostic term that was introduced in the 2017 international classification to better recognize and classify individuals with joint hypermobility (JH) and related symptoms.

#### Is HSD genetic?

• The exact cause of HSD is not fully understood, but there may be a genetic component to the condition. While there is no known genetic mutation to explain HSD, there may be a hereditary component that can be passed down from one generation to the next.

# Is HSD less severe than Hypermobile EDS (hEDS)?

• HSD is NOT less debilitating than hEDS.

# Are there comorbidities of HSD?

 Comorbidities occur commonly with HSD and include gastrointestinal problems, dysautonomia (dysfunction of the autonomic nervous system), mast cell activation disorder (MCAD), and autoimmune conditions.

# How is HSD treated?

 Treatment for HSD typically involves a multidisciplinary approach. Symptoms are best managed through a combination of movement therapies, modalities, addressing nutrition and sleep, and medications. Interventions must be tailored to the individual's specific needs.

This informational bulletin was created by <u>Bendy Bodies LLC</u> for medical professionals, patients, and their families. Content on this page is not to be substituted for medical advice. Please direct feedback to info@bendybodies.org. Learn more about bulletin author <u>Linda Bluestein, MD</u>.